

ABSTRACT

A signal encoding transmission apparatus has layered encoding means of structuring a transmission signal in a plurality of layers in a hierarchy, and of outputting a plurality of compressed bit streams generated by encoding the respective layered signals; and

modulating/transmitting means of (1) modulating each of the output compressed bit streams by a modulation method determined for each layer, and/or (2) transmitting the compressed bit streams by using carriers determined for each layer.